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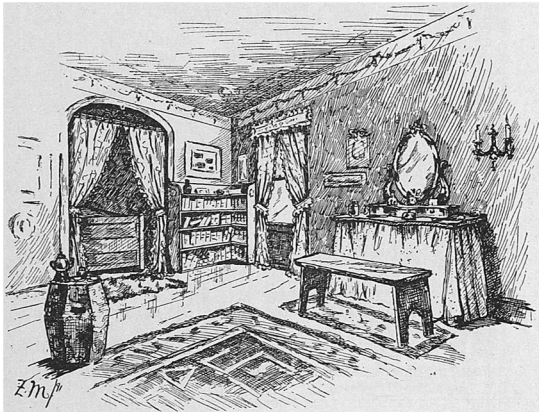
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HOME DECORATION.

BY ZELLA MILHAU.

A COLOR very much in vogue just now is green—in all its tones and tints, from the light sage and pea green to the deeper or dark greens. The room here depicted is in one of the lighter greens, the side walls being covered with a plain paper of that tint, the frieze being of the same, with a design in silver on it; the ceiling is a light and neutral tint, the bench in part being painted the same shade as the silesia. The dressing glass is framed in a silver frame, and the toilet articles upon the table are all of silverware. The curtains, both the



Young Lady's Dressing Room.

windows and portières, are of cretonne of a light shade, having a pattern of browns and greens upon it. The rug in part of the alcove is a black fur rug, the other rugs having for predominating tones green and white. The book-case, with the other furniture and wood work, is of dark cherry, and the pictures are framed with the same, or in little frames of silver. Green palms in china pots, and a green china tea stand, give the finishing touches to a very effective room, intended for a young lady's dressing and sitting-room.

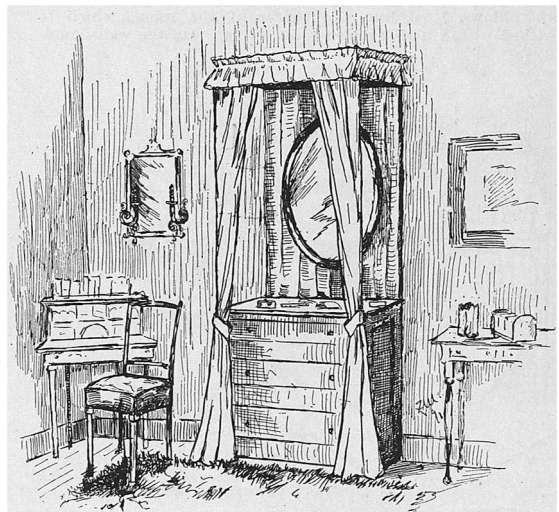
Silk-faced tapestries, fifty-four inches wide, are shown for wall decorations and hangings, as well as coverings for furniture. A whole room done in one pattern is very elegant.

Silk-faced portières, and others called Derby, are very handsome, and some are reversible, requiring no lining. All silk portières are made reversible also, with exquisite bordering in Colonial designs. Some of the portières are to be lined, and they are made of rich satin damasks in two and three colors, in the most delicate and pleasing tints, in Louis XV., XVI., and Colonial patterns, the brocade elegant enough for a Queen's gown. These, when used for curtains and portières, are lined with silk made in the same width, called sunshine drapery. It is changeable in two tints, one following the principal one of the damask, and

the other contrasting and trailing over the surface in a trailing frost work in white, which makes of it an exquisite material, which is also used separate from the damask in many instances, as it is reversible.

The tendency is decidedly toward lighter, brighter effects. The day of dark, sombre hues is apparently over. However, harmony and appropriateness are the things to be sought. An effective result is not to be obtained by either a pretty carpet, or hanging, or wall decoration, considered by itself, but by a combination of all three. Regard must only be had for what the French call the "*ensemble*." When about to furnish a room or a series of apartments, we should begin with a consideration of the proper treatment for the walls, since they are really the most emphatic parts of any room. The draperies and carpets are carefully adapted.

A very pretty yellow and white ornamental bureau can be made from a chest of drawers and an oval mirror. The chest is painted with white enamel paint, the drawer knobs being of glass. At the four corners sticks or poles are fastened, being of the desired height, usually some feet above the top of the chest of drawers. At the top these sticks are joined together,



A Home Decorated Bureau.

making a regular framework; on this, at the back, is fastened in folds, silk (yellow, with a white figure), and the same material is used to cover over the top, around which a flounce is nailed. Two curtains fall, hiding the front sticks, and are caught and looped a little below the chest top. The mirror, in a gold frame, is hung at the back, and if a black fur rug can be laid in front, it is a vivid contrast, and adds greatly to the effect.

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

Cosy corners make a most comfortable addition to any room and can be arranged in various ways. The one which our illustration (No. 1) represents is intended for a bachelor's room, and shows some novel features worthy of imitation. A wide bracket in the shape of a mantelshelf is fixed against the wall, and an ottoman placed beneath, with an easy chair and a small table on either side. The drapery above the bracket is arranged over a brass rod, an Eastern rug taking the place of the looking-glass. On the top shelf stands a statuette of St. George, two



A Free and Easy Retreat.

plates of embossed metal, and two racing cups or tankards, smaller bibelots in china and silver filling the shelf below. To form a corner, another Eastern drapery is suspended from a scroll branch of hammered iron, which has a decorative lantern attached. To the right of the ottoman stands a statuette on pedestal against a background of palm fronds.

Every well ordered home now has its den or cosey corner, a nook where my lady may sit and sew, or the master in slippers repose, smoke, ponder or read. An ingenious way of decorating a corner of this kind is shown in the accompanying sketch by Miss Zella Millhau, which represents a divan plentifully supplied with pillows, fitted into the corner of the room, which is sheathed with a high paneled wainscoting. On the wall imme-

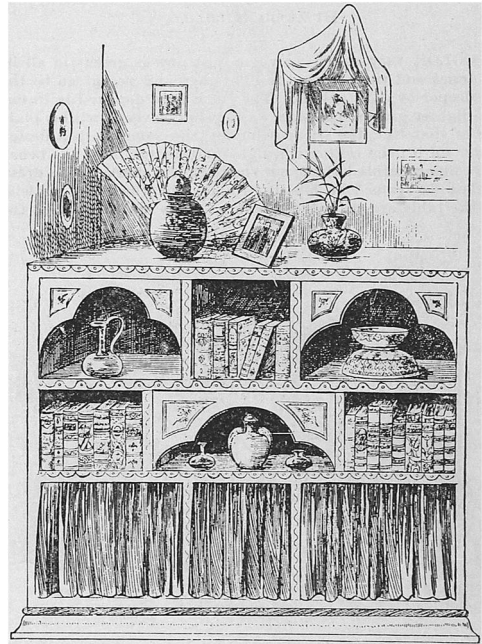


A Cosey Corner.

diately above the wainscoting is a double shelf for books, photographs and art treasures of various kinds. An occasional table, with a shelf between the legs, supporting a vase of flowers and books, stands on a rug beside the divan. This arrangement can be modified in any conceivable fashion, but the sketch given is not without its value as a suggestion for a cosey corner.

THERE are many ways of filling up the recess usually found in the present day houses. In the dining room, buffets may be placed in the recess instead of sideboards.

A recess for holding books and art treasures in general is shown in the accompanying illustration, which can be made by any carpenter, and consists of three simple shelves, the central one being the narrowest, and the whole arrangement does not rise higher than the line of the mantel-piece. Along the edge of the shelves should be glued strips of Japanese paper, and the various shelves are divided as shown in the illustration, the arches being either simple wooden arches, or else arches of Moorish fretwork. The bottom shelf should have three separate small curtains hung along it, the divisions being strips of wood decorated with Japanese leather. The entire arrangement should be painted or enameled to match the rest of the woodwork, and the silk used for the curtains should be of a contrasting color. Care should be taken not to have the woodwork too heavy, as the whole effect can be easily marred by thick wood, with heavy arches. China can be arranged on top of the structure, which



A Recess.

makes an admirable resting place for odds and ends of all kinds, and one's favorite photographs or books. An armchair should be put alongside of the recess, and this would suggest a favorite reading nook for an afternoon, without any more elaborate arrangement.

A bedroom recently decorated has a simple paper in light olive. The woodwork is painted green, of a yellow tone, to match the pretty window scene in a Kate Greenway picture, and the floor is covered with a fine weave matting. The furniture is mostly white, but one chair, painted green to match the woodwork, is very effective with a cushion of old blue plush. The window hangings are of blue and white French satine, and the spread for the bed, which is long enough to cover the bolster as well, is of the same material. Although this is properly a summer room, it may be made very comfortable and warm-looking in the winter by simply laying several black goat skin rugs upon the floor.

A very comfortable winter corner can be constructed by cutting off one end of an ordinary sofa, removing the back, and connecting the removed end with the end that is not cut off, forming a right angle of the two ends, as is shown in the accom-

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

panying illustration. This transforms a very ordinary looking sofa into an æsthetic lounge, which is exceedingly comfortable, and which is to be placed close to the fire, as shown. If the corner of the room, as shown in the background, be decorated in the manner indicated, a most comfortable and desirable place of rest and mental recreation can be constructed for the long winter evenings. We may mention that the legs of the lounge have also been cut down, until it is only fourteen inches high, the seat being about twenty-four inches wide. A couple of pillows on the end of the sofa next the wall makes an excellent rest for one's head, and here any one can lie in rest and peace.

Behind the sofa stands a corner cabinet, a very useful article of furniture. This cabinet is enameled in electric turquoise tint, and has brass handles to the drawers and cover. The drawers are made for use, and hold an immense variety of things. The drawers are divided in half inside, which is a great convenience, as it enables one to keep papers of all sorts and distinctions separate and distinct, while the cupboard also has a shelf in it that is the whole length and width of the bottom, thus holding a good deal. The two little velvetine curtains are to break the monotony, which would have been caused had the shelves been left open, and the shelves on top and sides hold any variety of china, dull yellow and blue jars being especially suitable for this room, as is also the deep red kabe and yemari ware that are imported in such quantities from Japan. The table shown in the illustration is one that is remarkably useful by reason of its second tray. It is covered with a dull yellow corduroy velvetine, edged with a ball fringe. Another kind of a



A Cozy Corner for Winter.

cover would be a loose table cloth in serge or Bokhara plush in large size, so that it would conceal anything that is hidden on the second tray.

The illustration gives some idea of how pictures can be hung about in an informal manner. There is no formal arrangement, yet all seems to fall into place without trouble, and the whole effect is very good. Flowers and plants are very desirable for the decorations of rooms. No house can be pretty without a great many of both, and any one who has not seen the immense difference plenty of plants make can have no idea of the satisfactory effect of these great adjuncts to the real decoration of the house.

The accompanying illustration, entitled "How to Drape a Piano," is self-explanatory in its details. The piano can be placed either out from the wall in a recess of the room, or across one corner of the room, or in any way that will not necessitate its back against the wall—a position that is fatal to anything like music, for it is very bad to play with one's back to one's audience, or to sing straight into the wall, which throws one's voice back all the while one is singing. As will be seen, the baize at the back of the piano is first covered with a Japanese leather paper, and then Japanese silk is draped over it, having a long piece at one side. The top of the piano is first covered with China silk, which is fastened with tiny tacks, under the head,



How to Drape a Piano.

which keep it in its place, and then a piece of Japanese upholstery is placed thereon. At one end is a tall palm stand of bamboo, with a big brass pot holding the palm. At the back, where there is no distinct drapery, stands a screen, and at the other end is a Karan inlaid stool, holding a jar of grasses. The silk, which is found in fronts of most pianos, should be replaced by Japanese leather paper.

If draping is objected to a very good substitute is formed by using a piano rod, from which can be hung a simple full curtain of some good and beautiful brocade. The top should always be arranged as shown in the sketch, for, although the various little articles may deaden the sound, and a good musician rage about them, they can be removed in three seconds to a side table, should music be the order of the day, and can be replaced at once without giving anyone any undue amount of trouble. Another idea would be to place a writing table against the back of the piano, which is covered with brocade.

In many of our modern houses there is an alcove, which is generally an extension of the upstairs parlor, over the hall below, when such space is not occupied as a hall bedroom. If the apartment to which the alcove belongs be used as a bedroom, the bed is usually fitted into the space, but in many cases the room is occupied as a library, or sitting room, and in such case the arrangement here shown is a very beautiful method of furnishing the alcove itself. On the left of the picture is shown the portières that cut off the alcove from the larger apartment. A delightful lounge is shown, filling the space from front to rear. In every corner of the room an artistic arrangement of shelves for bric-a-brac is introduced, while in the center there is a panel filled with Moresque lattice work, now so much

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

in vogue. Just below the frieze a shelf is carried round the room, supported by ornate brackets, on which can be placed various articles of bric-a-brac. If the alcove is a particularly light one, we would advise the walls covered with a plain tint of Gobelins blue, but if it is somewhat dark and cheerfulness is necessary in the walls, we would advise them to be covered with a pale mustard yellow ingrain. The lounge itself is covered with



A Decorated Alcove.

saddle-bag upholstery, and there is a Karan table in front of same, standing in the center of an Oriental rug. The great idea is to secure the right harmony of color, which, more than costly materials, secures artistic results, and such an addition as this to one's apartments will prove a daily delight.

HOLIDAY CALENDARS.

By CARRIE MAX ASHTON.

As the holidays approach, many and novel are the calendars seen in the shop windows, tempting people to buy.

Many there are who must fashion with their own hands the pretty souvenirs sent by them to loving friends as holiday gifts. One of the most artistic and original of calendars was designed by a New York artist, and is made of parchment paper nine and a half inches long and five inches in width.

The decorations are most unique and Oriental, and are done in sepia.

The leaves are tied together with the softest crepe looking ribbon of a yellow shade. The ribbon is also run in and out at the bottom and tied in bows at the corners.

On the cover appears a quaint looking scroll with A. D. 1892 in it. Each page has fancy scrolls together with other novel designs. The holes for the ribbon to be run through are not punched as ordinary ones are, but are burned out with acid.

Another novel and attractive calendar is divided into the four seasons.

Spring is represented by a cunning child with an umbrella over his head to protect him from the spring showers. Flowers are growing all around him, and he looks the personification of happiness and contentment.

Summer shows another child barefooted and barearmed fanning himself and enjoying the summer fruits and flowers. Next comes fall with its autumn leaves and berries, and a child playing happily among the rustling leaves. Winter is represented by a bright-faced child bundled up to its chin with furs and robes and the snow coming down fast. Any one with bright ideas can vary this and make a variety of calendars from this novel and picturesque design.

The one described is done on white Bristol board, but parchment paper. Water color paper can be used equally well.

A very simple and attractive calendar is made of water-color paper and has twelve pages, one for each month, all fastened together at the top with a silk cord so that as the months slip by they can be slipped over the top to the back. The designs seen on this are grasses, berries and sprays of flowers suited to the month.

Appropriate quotations are also found on each page, which are given below:

"January, icy cold,
Leaves a mantle soft and white."
"February, sharp and bold,
Onward takes his busy flight."
"March's chilly breezes blow,
Still they're touched by winter's hand."
"April melts the frozen snow,
April sunshine floods the land."
"May awakes the sleeping flowers,
Reigns a sweet and happy queen,
With her coaxing sun and showers,
Robes the trees in tender green."
"June is bright with roses gay,
Harebells bloom around her feet."
"Hot July rakes new mown hay
From the meadows, fresh and sweet."
"August's pleasant, quiet reign
Bids the meadow lilies come."
"And September's golden grain
Makes a welcome harvest home."
"Glad October's shining sun
Paints the leaves in richest dyes."
"And November, dreary one,
Shoots his arrows as he flies."
"Cold December's latest breath
Makes the woods and meadows drear,
And his eyelids close in death
As he ends the happy year."

A very simple and effective calendar is of parchment paper ten inches by seven. In the left hand lower corner is the small calendar pad that can be obtained very easily at any insurance office.

A graceful spray of wild roses is painted on one side. At the top appears the quotation, "Leaf by leaf the roses fall."

Another equally pretty one is of heavy water color paper, and has a pretty little snow scene on it surrounded by a wreath of mistletoe and holly. The quotation on this is, "The leaves of life keep falling one by one."

A very unique calendar is of white Bristol board six inches by four and a half, and is fastened together by a white silk cord and tassels.

On the cover is a flock of birds, with trailing vines and flowers and a fairy, looking into the distance. Kate Greenway figures in their picturesque costumes are seen on each page with an appropriate quotation for the month represented.

It is a good plan to take quotations from some favorite author and illustrate it as fancy dictates. Dickens, Shakespeare, Longfellow, Whittier, Holmes, Bryant, E. P. Roe, Helen Hunt Jackson, and Frances E. Willard are all excellent writers, and appropriate quotations can be selected from their books for calendars.

It is always wisest to have any gift suited to the person it is intended for. This is by no means difficult when one is making a variety of calendars. A very acceptable one can be made for a friend whose chief hobby is temperance, by selecting temperance quotations from different authors. Another one for an enthusiast on equal suffrage can be arranged in a similar manner.

Where one has a scrap book and saves popular poems, essays, etc., it is an easy matter to procure quotations for almost any style of a calendar.

Not only are calendars suitable for holiday gifts, but they can be made very profitable if one desires. Many a merchant will be glad to have some artist furnish him with hand-painted ones for the holidays, and will pay a good price for them. It is well to have them ready early in the season, or some one else may be ahead, and thus you will lose your chance of disposing of them.

Calendars are always in demand for Christmas fairs and bazaars, and usually bring a good price.